



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,931	09/22/2003	Gee-Sung Chae	041993-5233	5116

9629 7590 08/10/2005

MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

EXAMINER

KIM, RICHARD H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2871

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/664,931	Applicant(s) CHAE ET AL.	
	Examiner Richard H. Kim	Art Unit 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-70 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/5/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 15-70 withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected group, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 4/18/05.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kubota et al. (US 6,157,430).

Referring to claim 1, Kubota et al. discloses a device comprising a plurality of gate lines and data lines crossing each other to define a plurality of pixel regions (8, 13); a plurality of thin film transistors (Fig. 1a-1g), each disposed on one of the pixel regions; and a plurality of pixel electrodes, each disposed in one of the pixel regions, wherein the thin film transistors include at least one Ti layer (col. 9, lines 11-14).

Referring to claim 2, Kubota et al. discloses a device comprising a gate electrode on a first substrate (2); a gate insulating layer over the first substrate (4); a semiconductor layer on the gate insulating layer (6); source/drain electrodes on the semiconductor layer (10,11); and a passivation layer over the first substrate including the source/drain electrodes (12).

Art Unit: 2871

Referring to claims 5 and 6, Kubota et al. discloses that the Ti layer is formed on the semiconductor layer to function as an ohmic contact layer (col. 9, lines 11-14).

Referring to claims 12 and 13, Kubota et al. discloses a plurality of gate lines and data lines crossing each other to define a plurality of pixel regions (8, 13); a thin film transistor in each pixel region (1a-1g); a pixel electrode in each pixel region (1a-1g), and a metal masking layer in the thin film transistor comprising Ti (col. 9, lines 11-14)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubota et al. in view of Kaneko et al. (US 6,433,842 B1).

Kubota et al. discloses the method previously recited, but fails to disclose that the device comprising a titanium oxide layer formed on at least the passivation layer, the pixel electrodes, in the thin film transistors or as a masking layer having hydrophilic properties.

Kaneko et al. discloses a device comprising a titanium oxide layer having hydrophilic properties (col. 8, lines 24-31).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a titanium oxide layer formed on at least the passivation layer, the pixel electrodes, in the thin film transistors or as a masking layer having

Art Unit: 2871

hydrophilic properties since one would be motivated to utilize titanium oxide wherever etching is required in order to avoid local spotting of water and prevent an occurrence of disconnection due to failure to adhesion to resist (col. 8, lines 28-30)

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubota et al.

Kubota et al. discloses the device previously recited, but fails to disclose a black matrix on a second substrate, a color filter layer on the second substrate.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a black matrix on a second substrate, a color filter layer on the second substrate since color filters and black matrices are well known to produce a color display and to reduce light leakage.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard H. Kim whose telephone number is (571)272-2294. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-6:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on (571)272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2871

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RHK

Richard H Kim
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard H Kim', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

NGUYEN
EXAMINER